



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

Washington, DC
20250

Note: New vendors and subcontractors must supply all of the required paperwork (Appendix I, Financial Statement, and 3 Reference Letters), and must register in the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA). In addition, all Vendors must also be registered in the CCR within 48 hours after bid opening or your company may be considered non-responsive.

FV-314

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Date Issued: August 15, 2006

Fresh Vegetables, Announcement FV-314, Invitation 008

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell fresh sweet potatoes as indicated below and per the Announcement for use in Child Nutrition and other domestic food assistance programs. Offers are due by **1 p.m., Central Time, Tuesday, August 29, 2006**. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, September 13, 2006. Deliveries are to be made from November 28, 2006 through February 15, 2007.

Offers are invited from the trade for:

Fresh Sweet Potatoes	40 lb carton	4,000 cases
Grade: U.S. No. 1		
Washed		
Destination Inspection Required		

No offer will be made to 8(a) vendors on this invitation.

Vendors or subcontractors who are supplying fresh sweet potatoes are required to undergo the USDA AMS FVP Fresh Products Branch Good Handling Practices (GHP) certification process, and must score at least 70% on each of the following elements: House Packing; Storage and Transportation; and Traceback, prior to the submission of bids. Brokers are exempt from this requirement.

Vendors or subcontractors who have not acquired the GHP certification prior to the submission of bids will be deemed non-responsive.

The Fresh Produce Audit Verification Program can be accessed at the following website:
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/fpbgapghp.htm>

Note: Funds are not presently available for contracts awarded for FY 2007. The Government's obligation for contracts issued is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment for contract purposes can be made. No legal liability on the part of the Government for any payment may arise until funds are made available to the Contracting Officer for these contracts and until the Contractor receives notice of such availability, to be confirmed in writing by the Contracting Officer.



All prime vendors are reminded that they are prohibited from subcontracting with companies or individuals that have been suspended or debarred.

All invitations with orders for the state of New York must have the pack date stamped on the outside of each carton. The pack date should be annotated as per the following example: (05/01/2003). Orders for the state of New York requiring the special markings will be indicated by (**). This applies to New York orders "Only", if and when they appear on an invitation.

Bids must be submitted electronically via the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) on the Internet. Offerors who submit bids using other than DEBES, will be deemed non-responsive. Offeror must be assigned a Logon ID by USDA to access the site. The Internet address is: <http://pcsd.usda.gov/debes> which translates into a connection of <https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe>. Once connected, follow the online procedures. A 'HELP' button provides detailed instructions for using the system or call 202-720-4517 for assistance.


Bidders are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver in accordance with the contract. Inquiries about Announcement FV-314, Appendix-1, the Commodity Specification for Fresh Vegetables, or this Invitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer, USDA/AMS/Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0239, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, telephone (202) 720-4517. An electronic version of this invitation can be obtained through the World Wide Web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp>.

Purchases will be made on a delivered basis, subject to Announcement FV-314, to the listed locations. Destination quantities are estimates and are subject to adjustment based on offerings, changes in recipient need, market conditions, and program operations. Delivery by trucks or railcars is optional to the contractor, except for those destination(s) which specify delivery by truck only or rail only.

Split shipments are indicated by a single asterisk.

ANNOUNCEMENT : FV314
 INVITATION : 008
 COMM GROUP : 38 VEGETABLES, FRESH
 COMM TYPE : 70 SWEET POTATOES, FRESH
 PACK SIZE : 40 40 LB CARTON

ITEM NO	DESTINATION CITY	ST	TRANS RESTR	QUANTITY (CSE)	PRICE PER (CSE)
DELIVERY PERIOD 11/28/06 - 11/30/06					
001	CLARKSVILLE	AR	TRUCK ONLY	1,000	_____
DELIVERY PERIOD 01/29/07 - 01/31/07					
002	AMERICUS	GA	TRUCK ONLY	211	_____
	COLUMBUS	GA		321	_____
	DOUGLAS	GA	TRUCK ONLY	468	_____
003	CLEVELAND	GA	TRUCK ONLY	281	_____
	FAIRBURN	GA	TRUCK ONLY	719	_____ *
DELIVERY PERIOD 02/13/07 - 02/15/07					
004	CLARKSVILLE	AR	TRUCK ONLY	1,000	_____
TOTAL QUANTITY FOR COMMODITY TYPE				4,000	
TOTAL QUANTITY FOR INVITATION				4,000	


 Felicitas C. Lofton
 Contracting Officer

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.